

## Memorandum

Date: July 5, 2006

To: DFG-All

From: L. Ryan Broddrick  
Director

Subject: 2006/2007 Budget

Dear Team:

Governor Schwarzenegger signed the 2006/2007 state budget last week; on-time for the first time in six years.

In the budget, Governor Schwarzenegger utilized a combination of one-time and on-going funds to support his continuing commitment to preserving the great natural beauty and resources of our state. The Department of Fish and Game through all of your work is an integral part of implementing that commitment. Consequently, the Department is gaining significant additional resources to support our mission.

Overall, the Department has been allocated \$392,496,000 and 2,226.1 positions for the next fiscal year. Of that total, \$110,313,000 and 175.2 positions are newly authorized resources approved by the governor that enable the department to continue important conservation and restoration work, implement significant legislation and ocean protection efforts, enhance wildlife and lands management practices, and make major strides in recovering from the budget deficit that has accumulated over the last decade.

We have made significant progress in helping the Legislature understand that the reductions of staff and funding have taken their toll on our operations, and sustaining an acceptable level of service to the people and resources of this state has been through the sheer dedication and determination of DFG employees. We want to do more and we can do more, and this fiscal year's budget augmentation gives us staffing and fiscal resources to enhance existing programs and support further efforts benefiting our fish and wildlife resources, their habitats and the people who enjoy them.

The new resources that have been authorized address several key program areas reaching across departmental lines. These include:

### Marine Protection and Enhancement

- \$3M on-going for continuing the planning effort associated with the Blue Ribbon Task Force under the MLPA
- \$6M on-going for implementation of the bottom trawl bill, MLMA, and MLPA
- \$2M one-time for MLMA and MLPA efforts
- \$216K on-going for management and restoration work at the Bolsa Chica Lowlands
- \$5M one-time to establish a coastal wetlands management fund from which the department will receive 40% of the interest earned on the allocation to provide for

coastal wetlands protection; the other 60% of the interest earned will go to the Coastal Conservancy

- \$8M one-time for the Ocean Protection Council to be spent in cooperation with the department on coastal wetlands.

#### Fisheries Restoration and Enhancement

- \$4M on-going for the Fisheries Restoration Grants Program
- \$9.5M one-time augmentation to address long-term sustainability of our fisheries in the Klamath basin
- \$500K one-time for the Coastal Conservancy to study removal of fish passage barriers on the Klamath River
- \$681K on-going to operate four state-operated mitigation hatcheries in the Central Valley
- \$17M on-going to implement AB 7, legislation supporting DFG trout hatcheries and wild and heritage trout sport fishing opportunities, which includes a specific funding augmentation to the department's Preservation Fund to keep other vital department programs whole
- \$750K to support restoration efforts for anadromous fish on the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam

#### Fish and Wildlife Management

- \$10M for non-game species management
- \$1.5M ongoing to implement long-term sustainable sport fishing populations in the Central Valley and SF Bay through the Bay Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp program

#### Avian Influenza

- \$225K one-time and \$863K on-going to support scientific staffing, upgrade of diagnostic lab equipment, development of a response plan should the virus appear in California wildfowl, and implementation of a communications and public outreach plan to keep Californians educated and informed

#### Lands Management

- \$8.8M one-time for emergency work to repair levees on the department's Wildlife Areas and Ecological Reserves damaged in the 05/06 winter storms
- \$886K one-time to continue resource management projects including preservation of DFG wildlife areas, ecological reserves, and donated lands; ongoing California Waterfowl Program contracts; and control and eradication for noxious weeds in San Diego County

#### Habitat Conservation and Planning

- \$1.5M on-going for conservation planning and resources assessment to provide for the long term protection of habitat and endangered species.
- \$607K on-going for managing and maintaining habitat on DFG lands as T&E species mitigation and to meet expenditures and obligations of legal agreements, permits, court-ordered mitigation, or other land owner requirements and avoid possible lawsuits
- \$73.6M one-time to assume responsibility for the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program grants

### Automated License Data System

- \$448K one-time authority increase to support the development and implementation of a statewide automated license sales system which will increase efficiencies and enhance fundamental services to sport and commercial license buyers

These are substantial projects that reflect only a portion of the work that is done everyday throughout the department, again accomplished through your hard work and commitment. In recognition of the significant budget challenges the department has been subject to and the impact they have had on the department as a whole, Governor Schwarzenegger has also approved a total of \$23.9M to improve the health of the department's overall budget condition. These funds have been allocated to provide relief from revenue shortfalls due to decreased license sales, a trend we are seeing at a national-level; reduce the long-running deficit in both the dedicated and non-dedicated department accounts; and address the deficit created from unfunded mandates.

This next fiscal year will present opportunities and challenges as have years past, but we go into this year with a brighter fiscal prospect. I am confident that we will continue to accomplish great things on behalf of the people and resources of California and I thank you for your unswerving effort and commitment in fulfilling our mission.